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Tuition to approach \$14,000 for 2009-10

By JOHN LAFOLLETTE
Editor-in-Chief

The price of a Xavier education will reach an all time high next year, after the University Board of Trustees approved a 6.3 increase in undergraduate tuition and fees for the 2009-10 school year at its December meeting.

Starting in the summer 2009 semester, full-time undergraduate students will pay \$13,950 per semester, up \$825 from the current \$13,125.

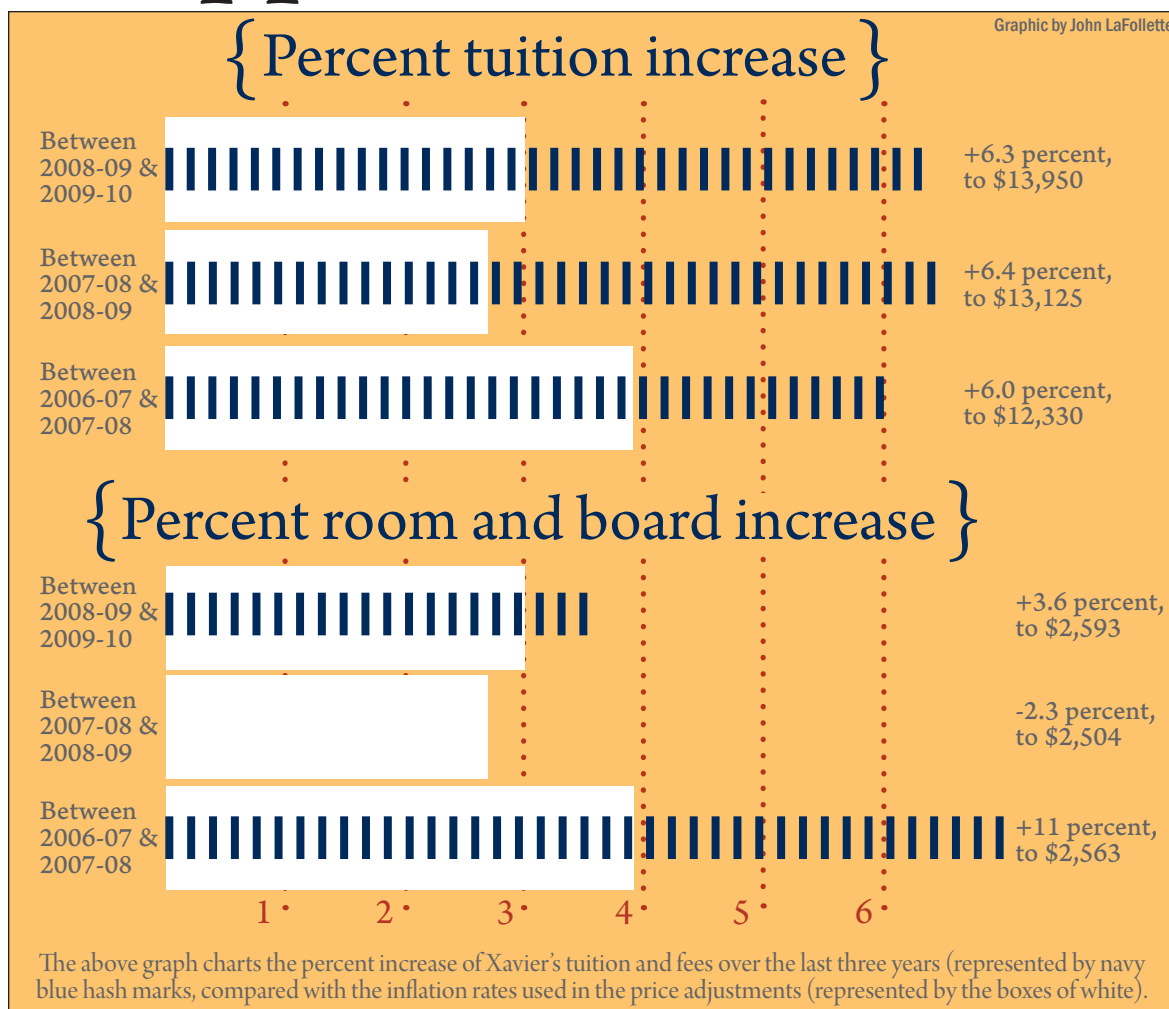
The cost of room and board is up between 3 and 5 percent, depending on the residence hall.

The tuition and fees increase is explained in a letter to Xavier students from Dr. Roger Fortin, the academic vice president and provost.

According to the letter, the increase will help fund faculty and staff development, expanded technological services, renovation in two residence halls, improvement in career services support and more integrated learning.

Noting that the cost to attend Xavier is "significantly below the average" for Jesuit and private institutions in the Midwest, the letter also announces an increase in available financial aid for students with documented financial need.

"Sensitive to global financial



conditions, the University Budget Committee did its best to contain tuition costs," Fortin said in the letter.

In an interview, Fortin said that the Budget Committee was con-

cerned about what effects the economic downturn might have on students and their families' ability to pay for a Xavier education.

"With this increase in aid, which is higher than usual, we're hoping

it will be possible to address costs that might arise," Fortin said.

Fortin said that the increase, which amounts to about \$2.2 million, will likely come from areas indicated by the Structural Review

Task Force, which convened to identify potential permanent budgetary improvements in the university's operating budget, though he could not say with certainty because next year's budget will not be finalized until the end of February, at the earliest.

Graduate school tuition also increased, but varied widely across programs.

Tuition for the graduate education programs, which experienced a significant enrollment shortfall in the fall 2008 semester, will remain the same next year.

Given the volatility of the national and global economies, Fortin said, the planning for next year's budget has been particularly tough.

"This was the most difficult budgetary process that I've gone through because there's so much that we don't know," said Fortin.

Based on research done by the university's enrollment management team, which in turn contracts a private firm that tracks national and local trends, Fortin thinks Xavier will meet its enrollment projection numbers.

"We'll be in the ballpark," Fortin said.

"When you do enrollment projections, you should at least be in the ballpark; last year we weren't in the ballpark."

Mixed success for SGA execs



Newswire photo by Erika Bresee

The current executives (from left) Josh Badall, Craig Scanlon and Carter Johnson, have made good on some platform goals, and not on others.

By KATHRYN ROSENBAUM
News Editor

The Student Government Association executives have accomplished some of the goals they named in their proposed election platform.

But, said SGA President senior Craig Scanlon, they have revised that platform to include projects they are continuing to work on, as

well as new goals that they hope SGA will continue to pursue in the future.

Scanlon said one of the accomplishments he and Legislative Vice President Carter Johnson and Administrative Vice President Josh Badall are most proud of this year is increased funding to O'Connor Sports Center to allow for an increase in operating hours,

as well as free athletic trainers available to students.

"SGA has been very helpful in extending the [O'Connor] operational hours and providing fitness interns, adding an educational component to the mission of the Recreational Sports program," said Jim Ray, Director of O'Connor Sports Center.

SGA is also looking into providing more funding to O'Connor to replace the existing equipment, since the new fitness center that was to be located at Xavier Square is now on hold.

Scanlon said that SGA has not accomplished its goal of advocating for students to more fully participate in plans for campus expansion. Scanlon has talked to Dean of Students Dr. Luther Smith and Associate Provost for Student Life Dr. Kathleen Simons about including students on the board. They have been receptive to the idea, but it has to be approved by other administrators.

Another accomplishment that the executives focused on was increasing the visibility of SGA

Continued on page 2

Musketeers trek to nation's capital to March for Life



Newswire photo by Jess Thimons

Xavier students (from left) junior Jessica Thimons, senior Keith Warnke, junior Sarah Zick, senior Julio Minsal-Ruiz and Molly Guilfoyle attended the annual March for Life demonstration in Washington, D.C. More on **Campus News**, pg. 3

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Recession offers grim job outlook for '09 graduates

BY ANDREW CHESTNUT
Editorial Columnist

New reports are issued every day that portend an ever-darkening forecast for the U.S. and global economy over the next couple years, containing figures that are very hard for graduating college seniors to overlook.

As graduates prepare to enter the workforce, many will find the task of finding a job unusually difficult.

The national unemployment rate, which was reported at 7.2 percent as of December, is forecasted to peak between 8-9 percent over the next two years—which would mark the highest level since 1983.

Ohio has seen similar labor trends, experiencing an unemployment rate of 7.3 percent as of November.

However, the outlook is far more positive for college graduates, to whom recessions are traditionally less harmful.

The unemployment rate for college grads was only 3.7 percent in December; those with degrees tend to stay unemployed for shorter periods and have economic resources to more comfortably handle these periods.

Although having a degree does represent an advantage, this year's graduating class is still at a disadvantage chronologically.

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, firms plan on hiring 1.3 percent more college graduates in 2009 than they hired in 2008. Last year, the percentage increase in expected hiring was 16 percent.

Recent research is suggesting that on the average, graduates who enter the workforce during recessions experience years of reduced earnings because there are simply fewer high-level job offers

and fast-track advancement opportunities to go around.

One study showed that each one percent increase in unemployment during recessions signaled a 7 to 8 percent drop in wages on new workers upon entering the workforce, and suggests the gap between recession graduates and expansion graduates does not close for up to 13 years.

In light of the many layoffs, dire unemployment numbers and hiring freezes that saturate our news, it is not surprising that increased numbers of graduates are finding it more advantageous to pursue graduate, law and MBA degrees, in order to improve resumes or delay the time until one has to find work.

Higher education applications typically spike during recessions. Already, there has been an increase in the percentages of people that have registered for standardized tests—15.3 percent for the LSAT and 5.1 for the GMAT.

While both graduate school admissions and the labor force become more competitive during recessionary periods, having a college degree remains extremely beneficial.

Important figures

- 7.2%** National rate of unemployment
- 7.9%** National unemployment rate for men
- 6.4%** National unemployment rate for women
- 7.3%** Unemployment rate in Ohio
- 3.7%** National unemployment rate for college grads

The percentages represent the most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Neighborhood Summit promotes collaboration

BY KELLY SHAW
Senior News Writer

Xavier hosted the seventh annual Neighborhood Summit on Saturday, Jan. 24, to allow citizens and city officials to discuss and collaborate regarding major issues currently affecting Cincinnati. This year's summit addressed Cincinnati's housing market, the economy and how to improve communities.

"Collaboration is key to addressing all of the challenges and opportunities that we face in Cincinnati," said Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory. "Every year, the summit is a chance for large-scale brainstorming and problem solving about neighborhood issues that fuels progress throughout the year."

The summit began with a dinner on Friday, Jan. 23 where awards were given to city volunteers. Rep. Steve Driehaus spoke to the audience about the changes he wants to see in Cincinnati, as well as the community's role in improving the city.

Driehaus is a first term United States Representative for the first congressional district in Cincinnati. He previously served in the state house as the 31st District Representative. He also is the former director of the Community Building Institute, an organization run by Xavier University and the United Way of Greater Cincinnati that promotes citizen-led community development. Driehaus now serves as the senior associate of the CBI.

Mallory began the summit on Saturday. Following his speech, participants attended three one-hour sessions focusing on housing, the economy and work force development



Photo courtesy of 21stcenturydems.org

Rep. Steve Driehaus attended the pre-summit dinner and spoke about city improvement.

and the best practices for community collaboration.

During the housing session, officials from the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority discussed how communities could reuse and improve abandoned and foreclosed properties, as well as how to stabilize neighborhoods that are currently in good shape.

Mallory took part in the economy and workforce development session, where he discussed the importance of the 2010 census as well as Agenda 360.

Agenda 360 is a program that intends to create significant improvements for Cincinnati by the year 2020. It will require the city to develop performance indicators, use assets, confront diversity challenges and come to more consensus among neighborhoods.

During the final session, which concentrated on community collaboration, the CBI discussed the benefits of community collaboration. The war on violence in Cincinnati and efforts to make the city more environmentally friendly were also discussed in the third session.

Mixed success for SGA execs

Continued from page 1

on campus since "many students don't know what their funding goes towards," said Scanlon. This was accomplished through placing stickers on SGA projects, a newsletter and dorm visits by SGA members.

SGA has also implemented Presidential Advisory Initiatives, which bring together SGA and club leaders in order to encourage collaboration and awareness.

However, SGA did not continue the Student-Administrator forum because of the low turnout at the event last year.

One goal that Scanlon said that he wants to work on for the remainder of his term is to advocate for student participation regarding campus expansion plans.

Another project that will consume much of the executive's term is the Budget Review Committee. Previously, the president had the power to create the budget for next year. However, Scanlon cre-

ated a committee because he wanted more input and a more streamlined budget.

The newly elected executive ticket's platform will be considered in the budget. This is important since the amount that SGA will receive is in question, said Scanlon, and he wants the new ticket to have funds available to complete their goals.

The executives planned on creating a survey that would give concrete facts about projects. It is late in Scanlon, Johnson and Badall's term to use a survey to guide this year's initiatives, so it is up to the president-elect to create a survey.

The executives also did not yet deliver on their platform goal of bringing Rukus, a free music download service, to campus. This requires cooperation with the IT department. SGA has also not expanded food options in Gallagher. Chartwell's, Xavier's food service provider, is in control of food service options on campus.

XU students march in D.C.



Photo courtesy of Jessica Thimons
Twenty-two Xavier students joined thousands of others to march against Roe v. Wade, which legalized abortion in 1973.

By MEGHAN BERNEKING
Asst. Campus News Editor

On Thursday, Jan. 22, several Xavier students joined thousands of pro-life activists for the annual March for Life in Washington D.C.

The march commemorates the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision, which legalized abortion in 1973. Twenty-two people represented Xavier this year on the trip organized by Students for Life.

Once in Washington, Xavier students joined approximately 20 other Jesuit universities and high schools for Mass the morning of the march.

Afterwards, a rally took place on the mall with various speakers and music. The protest march itself began around 2 p.m., passing the United States Capitol and ending at the Supreme Court building.

According to Xavier senior Ellie Jaqueth, co-coordinator of the march, one thing that was different about this year's march was that the crowd was led by women and men who have regretted their decisions to abort a pregnancy or encourage an abortion.

There are no Police Notes this week due to the weather. Police Notes will return in the Feb. 4 issue of *the Newswire*.

Over 1,000 red roses were laid on the steps of the Supreme Court building, which "provided a better visual for the cause," said Jaqueth.

At one point, said Jaqueth, a group of Xavier students began praying the rosary and were joined by others around them. Though a protest march, "It can be very meditative," said Jaqueth. "We can move through action and prayer."

"You see a lot of people who believe the same things you do, who are trying to have some say as a group," said Xavier junior Ben Schuerman, who co-coordinated the trip with Jaqueth.

Problems finding an adult chaperone almost prevented the group from going. According to Schuerman, the Students for Life advisor, Patrick Welage, had hoped to go but was later unable to attend.

This left group members asking around for a willing chaperone four days before the march. Fortunately, Dr. Daniel Dwyer, a professor in the philosophy department, stepped in.

"While the March focuses on Roe v. Wade, Students for Life prefers to take a much more concrete stance overall. The club is founded on what is known as the consistent ethic of life. This means that we work to protect life at every stage from conception to natural death. It is our opinion

that more resources must be provided for pregnant women so that no woman is forced to choose between her child and an abortion," said sophomore Kelly Perkins, president of Students for Life.

This year's march was seen as particularly important among pro-life groups due to the recent presidential election. President Barack Obama, who supports abortion rights, overturned the "global gag rule" as one of his first acts as president. The global gag rule banned U.S. funding of organizations providing or advocating abortions.

According to Schuerman, there were several protest signs directed towards Obama, particularly regarding the controversial Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA). "The most important sign in all of the march read: Obama's Mama Chose Life," said senior Julio Minsal-Ruiz, who attended the march.

"For me, attending the March for Life was a way to address the pressing social justice issue of our time: abortion. The voice of the unborn not only falls within advocacy of social justice, but remains to be the center and foundational issue," said Minsal-Ruiz.

"We were very lucky to have the opportunity to unite with others who share our same values and beliefs," said Perkins.

Crime stats stay steady; no cause for concern

By KATHRYN ROSENBAUM
News Editor

From 2005 to 2007, the number of crime reports on Xavier's campus has remained fairly consistent. Crime statistics have not been available since 2007.

Specialist Ken Grossman, crime prevention officer for Xavier University, said that none of the statistics have been alarming to Xavier police. Grossman, in communication with local and other urban campus police departments, said that crime on Xavier's campus is "better than average for an urban campus."

Some of the more notable statistics include a decrease in on-campus burglaries to six in 2007, down from 14 in 2006. Grossman attributes the higher number in 2006 because doors to individual rooms of the residence halls were left unlocked. There were also two off-campus burglaries in 2007, compared to eight in 2006.

However, the crime reports show that in 2007 there were two motor vehicle thefts on campus and one off-campus, compared to zero on-campus and two off-campus thefts in 2006.

Campus crime trends may have a correlation with crime trends in the surrounding areas of North Avondale, Evanston and Norwood, according to Grossman.

Four forcible sex offenses on campus and two off-campus offenses were reported to Xavier in 2007. Forcible sex offenses include "any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will,

or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent and forcible rape," according to the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics.

The Clery Act requires colleges and universities that participate in federal financial aid programs to collect, report and disseminate crime data to the campus and Department of Education. Statistics for 2008 will be available in April.

Liquor law and drug abuse citations are also tracked by Xavier University Police. A new system now reports the number of citations that both police and Residence Life report. For instance, in 2005 there were 54 liquor law citations and 11 drug abuse citations, which only reflect the number of citations issued by campus police.

In 2006 and 2007, both police and Residence Life's numbers were reported. In 2007, there were 606 liquor law citations and 56 drug abuse citations and in 2006, 810 liquor law citations and 48 drug abuse citations were issued. These numbers often "fluctuate because they are dependent on the size of the parties and resulting citations," said Grossman.

Campus Police now faces an increased patrol area because of the campus expansions. Last year, Xavier added a new full-time day shift officer. They are also working with developers to decrease construction site crime and make safety suggestions during the design phase.



Photo courtesy of Picasa Web Albums
Xavier's crime statistics have been mostly consistent from 2005 to 2007.



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Xavier grad returns to speak on MLK

By Amy Windhorst
Campus News Editor

After working successfully for Proctor & Gamble and the Democratic National Convention, Xavier graduate Damon Jones took some time out from his busy schedule to return to campus.

Jones’ stance as a rising black community leader made him an ideal candidate for speaking during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. events held last week. On Wednesday, Jan. 21, Jones gave a free presentation in the Clocktower Lounge at Gallagher Student Center.

“We could—and do—bring folks in from outside Xavier to share their knowledge and experiences,” said Xavier’s Media Relations Coordinator, Laurel Bauer. “But to bring someone who was once one of us, and have him tell us what all of this has meant in his life, makes it even more personal.”

Jones, who was listed as one of the “Forty Under Forty” business professionals by Cincinnati Business Courier, graduated from Xavier with a Bachelors of Arts in Broadcast Journalism and a minor in Business Administration. Even during his time at Xavier, Jones displayed leadership among his peers. He was an honors student, and served for two years as the



Photo courtesy of Damon Jones
Damon Jones, Xavier graduate, spoke on campus during MLK week.

Student Government Association president.

“He represents what Xavier considers the gold standard – one who is committed to serving and caring for others,” said Bauer.

The free presentation, which had an attendance of forty, gave Jones the opportunity to reflect on what “Living the Legacy” of Martin Luther King Jr. meant to him. He displayed statistics that highlighted the progress made since the time of King.

His recent involvement with the Democratic National Convention also gave him the opportunity to comment on the inauguration of

the first African American president. He additionally took questions from the audience.

Such events are important because they “acknowledge the steps we have taken to embrace diversity since Martin Luther King Jr. and [remind us] that there are still so many more to take,” said Lynda Simon, Project Director for Student Life and Leadership.

Simon, along with Cathy Springfield and the Performing Arts department, were responsible for bringing Jones to campus. Many other departments participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. week events, including the Student Government Association, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, International Student Services and Interfaith Community Engagement.

While the events gained a good amount of publicity—even a small mention in the Cincinnati Enquirer—the numbers in attendance were low. “It was disappointing to see the small turn out at the events,” said Simon.

However, in many ways, the Martin Luther King Jr. week events were still a success. The increasing awareness reminds us “that equality is a work in progress and each of us must always remain vigilant to ensure oppression does not gain the upper hand,” said Bauer.

The Calendar

A brief look at events for the week of January 28-February 3, 2008

Wednesday
January 28

International Tea Coffee Hour

When: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Where: Faces of the World Lounge, GSC

Come and join International Students’ Society for their special coffee hour. They will be serving exotic teas from all over the world. Food will be available as well.

Thursday
January 29

Peru: Living in Fear, Terror and Lies

When: 6:30 p.m. – 1:30 a.m.
Where: Albers 103

The Student Organization of Latinos and Spanish Club present “Peru: Living in Fear, Terror and Lies.” The event will include a presentation and discussion on the violent Peruvian guerilla group known as Shining Path as well as the corruption of Peru’s President Alberto Fujimori. Presented by Fabiola Arce and Erica Handley.

Friday
January 30

Threshold Retreat

When: 6 p.m. – 12 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1
Where: Dorothy Day House

The Threshold Retreat is sponsored by the Peace & Justice Programs. The goal of the retreat is to inspire students to continue on their personal faith and social justice journey through both stimulating and rejuvenating activities while building a community of support for continued growth.

Sunday
February 1

Guest Speaker: Dr. Paul Ewald on Emerging Diseases

When: 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Where: Cintas Center, Banquet Room 2

All are welcome to attend “Emerging Diseases: How Darwinian Thinking Helps To Distinguish the Few Grave Threats From the Many Fizzers,” a presentation by Dr. Paul Ewald. It is presented as part of Darwin 2009: A Collaborative Celebration of Evolution. The year 2009 marks both the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin’s birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of “The Origin of Species.”

Tuesday
February 3

L.E.A.D. presents “Speak Your Mind”

When: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Where: Multicultural Affairs, GSC Room 280

Join Ladies with an Emphasis on Achievement and Distinction to explore several hot topics within society and debate about the issues from different perspectives.

Acoustic Night at the GSC Fireplace with Peace & Justice Clubs

When: 8 p.m. – 1:30 a.m.
Where: Gallagher Student Center Fireplace

The Peace & Justice Clubs will be hosting an acoustic night at the Gallagher Student Center fireplace, featuring members of the clubs. The new Peace & Justice hoodie will be on sale during this event.

The Newswire:
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New issues every
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Ben Folds

Ticket Info HQ



- The concert will be on *February 19th @ 7:30 PM*
- Tickets are available for purchase at the Cintas Center ticket office or online at ticketmaster.com
- Student tickets are \$15 and General Public tickets are \$25
- Tickets will be available until the day of the concert while supplies last!

There are only 3 weeks left...
have you bought your ticket?

SAC's MIDNIGHT SKI TRIP

Feb. 7th



Tickets go on sale THIS FRIDAY at 11:30 AM on the 1st Floor of the GSC.
Your \$25 ticket includes:

- transportation
- four hour lift ticket
- rental
- beginner's ski lesson (if necessary).

Get in line early because this event sells out every year!.



Ice Skating

THIS SATURDAY!
Looping busses from 6 to 10 PM will take students down to Fountain Square for an evening on the rink!
Sign up in the SGA office, GSC 210!



FIFA TOURNAMENT

TOMORROW NIGHT IN THE SAC OFFICE 6-9 PM

SIGN UP IN THE SAC OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT
SPACE IS LIMITED...FUN IS NOT.

Edited by
Molly Fox

Come see us!
SAC Meetings Wednesdays @ 3
Senate Meetings Mondays @ 3

Questions? Comments?
Contact x4250



MONDAY, FEB. 9 | CINTAS CENTER Spring Career Fair and Diversity Reception

DIVERSITY RECEPTION
1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

CAREER FAIR
3:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.



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Deloitte & Touche
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- Research organizations prior to attending.

Presented by the Career Services Center with cooperation from the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Williams College of Business

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NEED HELP PREPARING FOR THE CAREER FAIR?
Attend the "Résumé and Career Fair Preparation" workshop
Tuesday, Feb. 3, from 5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. in the Clocktower Lounge at GSC
Presented by The Nielsen Company and sponsored by the Career Services Center



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Editor-in-Chief & Publisher JOHN LAFOLLETTE
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Advertising Manager ELLIE JAQUETH
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EDITORIAL | TUITION HIKES

Not fun, just necessary.

The news that Xavier is increasing its tuition for the 2009-10 school year would be significant even in less perilous economic straits. That they are occurring now, in the midst of a recession that is showing no signs of weakening, makes the increases all the more tangible for tuition-paying students and their families.

While substantial, and in many cases painful, the tuition increase for the coming year is not surprising. It is on a scale consistent with increases from other years, and as Dr. Roger Fortin, the academic vice president and provost, said, it's been since the Nixon administration that there hasn't been an increase in tuition from year to year.

What makes this cost increase the most difficult is the timing. When families are finding it the most difficult to send their children to college, the cost of a Xavier education is going up by \$850 a semester.

Fortunately, the university is offering another \$2.2 million in financial aid to students in need, which is enough to cover the \$850 increase for 2,500 semesters. The actions that Xavier has taken in this regard are laudable.

Still, that money has to come from somewhere. The recommendations of the university's Structural Review Task Force are becoming more and more interesting with each passing week.

With the operating budget of the university firmly scheduled to increase with the opening of the Hoff Academic Quadrangle next year, the addition of \$2.2 million in financial aid and a cloudy enrollment horizon, it is in the interest of everyone in the Xavier community to attend the open forum discussing the Structural Review Task Force's recommendations.

EDITORIAL | FEBRUARY SGA ELECTIONS

Are you a breath of fresh air?

Soon there will be an election for the three executive positions and it's probably safe to say that there will be tickets composed of past members of SGA and SAC, but *the Newswire* would enjoy a non-SGA ticket.

In fact, to run for president, the only requirement is that you have been at Xavier for three semesters and at Xavier for only one semester to be legislative and administrative vice president.

With that being said, this means that a lot of students meet the requirements to run for these positions. So, therefore, a non-SGA ticket shouldn't be a far-fetched idea.

But maybe it's a far-fetched idea because some students feel that they can't really penetrate the bubble of the hyper-involved, popular students who are all from the same social circle.

We know that sometimes cliques form at Xavier surrounding student groups; *the Newswire* can be guilty of this too. But, if our student government representatives are all coming from the same group of students then the entire student body will not be represented. Instead, only one voice will be heard and no real work will get done.

The Newswire wants to encourage students who may have never considered running for student government to seriously think about it. After all, as we have seen with the past election, even some of the most unlikely people can really inspire change. We've seen recently that the Scanlon-Johnson-Badall ticket have worked very hard, but the jury is still out on the rest of the senators.

It's time for other students to insert themselves into student government. Burst that bubble, don't be shy.

On the Web: www.xavier.edu/newswire

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Xavier University is an academic community committed to equal opportunity for all persons.



The Newswire would like to thank all essential staff for working so hard, even when the university is closed.

LETTERS

For the love of \$? No way

Darren LaCour's column "For the love of money?" (Jan. 14) threw me for a loop and shocked me a great deal. The piece took a drastic turn after the first few paragraphs and became an article that seemed to vilify and degrade many of my peers and close friends.

LaCour seems to be of the mindset that everyone who pursues a degree in business, medicine or other disciplines is in it solely for the money. This may be true of some people, but it is hardly true for everyone.

Some people study these subjects because they want to do things with their degree; great things that will change the world.

Science and pre-med students who want to cure diseases; business students who want to use their skills at a non-profit organization or use this degree as a stepping stone towards future education and possibilities.

Most of these students are pursuing their chosen field because they genuinely enjoy what they are studying. I have a friend who told me they were taking all science classes this semester and, after seeing my grimace, replied, "Oh no, I love this stuff."

Are these the people you say "succumb to their greed?"

How can you judge these people for pursuing degrees that will hopefully offer them good opportunities for their future, when you describe your father as doing the exact same thing?

Maybe the students you describe are being pushed by the same desires as him, trying to create a better situation for their children than the one they had.

How can you ignore the fact that we are all undergoing the same liberal arts education, the same core curriculum? We all seek to find "knowledge," "truth" and other "ideals" in our lives.

How can you look down on these students with an "air of superiority?"

In reality you are the same as they are—students who are trying to find their way in the world, students who are attempting to discover what is calling them to be a better person and do great things.

Ben Schuerman | '10

Where are the seniors?

Our men's basketball team is the best it has been in my four years at Xavier, but the student section might be the worst! When we were in the AP poll at No. 24 for one week in 2006, we were ecstatic. Now, we have been in the top 25 for weeks and even

visited the top 10 this season, and suddenly the senior fans have disappeared!

Quick—name a senior who inspires you to stand up and cheer at a game—can you name two?

Our student section is great—if we are playing a rival or a ranked team.

We seem to devote our energy based on our opponents, not our own terrific team. We're in conference play now. We will again dominate the A-10.

How is this a bad thing? We fans—especially seniors—need to get to the game, stand for the whole thing (ignore those knee pains) and cheer our hearts out. We only get four years to do this—become boring after you graduate.

There are six more home games. Seniors (and everyone else): dust off that banana suit, crack open that blue paint, pour some creativity into a sweet sign and give our team two hours of absolute insanity every time we play!

How are freshmen and others going to learn how to act at a basketball game if no one cares to show how it's done?

If you have complaints or suggestions, PLEASE email me at robinsonm2@xavier.edu.

Matt Robinson | '09
President, X-treme Fans

5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

1. You have opinions, and we consider most of them to be somewhat valid!
2. You or someone you know will have been offended by something in a previous issue of *the Newswire*!
3. You'll always have the last word in an argument, since you're writing in response to something already published, so it always will look like you win!
4. You can get published without even completing your degree!
5. Your letter means there will be less space for Darren and Katherine to offend you!

Newswire-Oped@xavier.edu

—STAFF TALK—

with Darren LaCour & Katherine Monasterio

“How do YOU stay warm on snow days?”



Emily Hoferer
Managing Editor

“Chilean llama socks!”



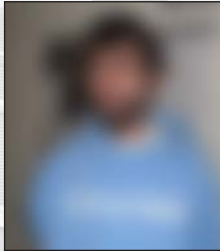
John LaFollette
Editor-in-Chief

“Wild Turkey, neat.”



Katie Rosenbaum
News Editor

“Dreaming of my Bahamian cruise.”



Darren LaCour
Op-Ed Editor

“Oh...I don't think we can print that...”



Doug Tift
Sports Editor

“By the massive amounts of heat radiating from the Publications House.”



Katherine Monasterio
Assistant Op-Ed Editor

“Blankets, cocoa and probably Fable II. God help me, I am so ashaamed.”



Andrew Chestnut
Editorial Columnist

“By standing next to Brad Redford.”



photos by Katherine Monasterio
Amy Windhorst
Campus News Editor

“Vommin'.”
(Editor's note: Amy has the flu.)

X-tremely quiet

BY BRANDON MCCLAIN
Editorial Columnist

I can't stand Duke, plain and simple. I can't stand their tradition, the amount of national television exposure they get, the refs that officiate their games, Kyle Singler's ugly self, and Coach K. Most of all, I can't stand the Duke students and their ridiculous student section, the Cameron crazies. Maybe it's because they're all nerds and they're spoiled, but that isn't it.

Our student section is spoiled too, but we don't act on it at all. Instead, we're energetic and excited only occasionally and we're not unified in any way. At the time of this publication, our men's basketball team has a 17-2 record, is undefeated in A-10 play and is number 10 in the country. Also at the time of this publication, Duke is No. 1 in the top 10, sitting pretty with an 18-1 record. I ask all of you Xavier basketball fans, where's the passion and energy in our student section? Where's the unity in color? Where are the ridiculous signs that make fun of the opposing team or show support for our guys? What is it that makes our students different than Duke's?

Ladies and gentlemen, I don't know if you're aware of this, but we're currently experiencing some of the best times in Xavier basketball history and things are only going to get better. I sincerely ask all of you: Are you going to get better with the team? It appears that we're only into a game when we play a “good” opponent or a

rival like the University of Dayton or the University of Cincinnati, and even then we half-ass our support for the team. We're fortunate enough that Xavier is the No. 10 team in the country, whether we play Dayton, UC, LaSalle, NJIT or whomever. We need to act like we actually support our team.

Too many people come to the games to socialize, not to cheer or be loud and obnoxious. Why is it that we can't get our students to be into the game for the full 40 minutes while wearing Xavier blue? Sure, the X-Shirt is a little pricey, but is it really that hard to wear a basic navy Xavier shirt? If you want to be in the student section, please make sure that you're in the Xavier student section wearing blue or white, not orange or, God forbid, red (we don't like UD or UC, remember?).

I don't know what it will take, but let's show some appreciation towards our team. Sure, you might say, “oh, we're not Duke/UNC/Notre Dame/etc. and our student section is different,” but let's be real here, how many of you honestly wouldn't enjoy getting the workout from jumping up and down for 40 minutes as a unified body? Maybe you don't want to jump, but is it hard to stay in the game vocally? Our chance to do that is coming up with the Blue/White game Feb. 5 against Temple, that will be broadcast on ESPN. Our student section is strongly encouraged to wear blue for the game, which isn't that hard to do. If you don't have a navy blue Xavier shirt, borrow

one. Otherwise give your ticket to someone who is willing to be an active member of the student section.

Let's try to take our student section seriously and unify ourselves instead of looking like a mish-mash of colors and students who are bored. We've got a great team and we should be more than willing to give them the rowdiest student section in the country.



Shake the shame

BY EMILY HOFERER
Managing Editor

Girls are a confusing bunch. The reason that I know we are confusing is because I have lived with my maturing female brain for 22 years and I still don't understand myself half the time.

One thing I do know for sure is that the only reason I have ever hated another girl is because of a boy.

I hear this happens to other girls too, but not necessarily because girls are fighting over a guy or that one of the girls is jealous. Sometimes girls get mad at their friends' behavior or decisions with a guy.

I used to not like one of my friends because she and I liked the same boy. I look back on this situation with a lot of shame because my jealousy and competitiveness blinded me from seeing what a tremendous person she is. I even remember saying to another friend that if it weren't for the boy in question, she and I would probably be friends. But I let the drama of the situation get the best of me.

Looking back, I know I said this because deep down I really did think she was cool and wanted to be friends, but because of this boy, our friendship was delayed. (Yet another reason to feel ashamed.)

I am fortunate now to see that all wounds heal with time, and it makes me really happy to say that we are friends. Isn't it strange how things work out like this?

And you know what? Neither of us are with that boy in question.

I am also guilty of judging relationships that girls have with guys. I almost stopped speaking to my best friend from high school, Molly, because I did not

like the boyfriend she had at the time. I nearly threw away one of the greatest friendships of my life because I was busy judging, being angry and feeling neglected. I was too concerned about her dealings with her boyfriend and I failed to focus on our individual friendship. Once again, shame on me.

No one is perfect, especially me. I still hold teeny tiny grudges and get jealous. Again, I seem to catch myself dwelling on a lot of negatives.

However, I have come to realize that no one is going to like everyone else all the time. This is not a perfect world. It would be ideal for me to sit here and say that we should all throw our differences aside and every double X chromosomal human being should unite together instead of drive each other apart.

But, like I said before, nothing is perfect. These things are going to happen. It is unavoidable in girl world.

So I'm trying a new approach: Not focusing on the girls that I don't like. Instead, I'm going to focus on the girls I do like, whether it's because we bond on matters of the heart, laugh a lot at life's little happenstances or just really click.

In the last semester of my senior year, I am going to try very hard to not dwell on the negative people in my life, whether they be boys, girls, real, fictional or what have you.

Instead, I'm going to try and be thankful for all the wonderful friends I do have and how fortunate I am to have them. I shouldn't waste so much time and energy on people I dislike.

I'm going to spend as much time as possible with the girls that I do like. They are smart, strong and hilarious girls. And great friends.

Well Wired

By Ben N. Formed

Lycanthropy is a disease in which a man thinks he's a wolf.

Twelve or more cows are known as a flink.

In Australia, the male antechinus mouse has up to sixteen partners per sex session, which take place in trees and can last up to twelve hours. Often they become so weak they fall out of trees and are killed.

The sloth can starve to death even with a plentiful supply of food if there are too many cloudy days in a row.

Spider monkeys like banana daiquiris.

Only two animal species wage war on their own kind – ants and humans.

A snail can sleep for three years.

The average talker sprays about three hundred microscopic saliva drops per minute – about two and a half droplets per word.



Always move toward your demons; they take their power from your retreat.

Doug Tiff, Editor
Phone: 745-3607
newswire-sports@xavier.edu

Records abound for track team

The Xavier University track team set eight school records at the Gladstein Invitational hosted by Indiana University on Saturday, Jan. 24. In addition, Xavier runners were able to capture first in two events.

Senior Becky Clark came in first in the women's mile invitational with a time of 5:03.43. In the men's 400, freshman Nick Williams placed first with a time of 50.43. Sophomore Tommy Kauffmann missed first place by three seconds in the men's 5,000.

There were four school records set for the men. Junior Derek LeBlanc in the triple jump, freshman Brian Armstrong in the indoor 200, senior Clinton Womack in the indoor 800 and sophomore Joey DelCecato in the 35-pound weight throw record with a throw of 13.41m.

On the women's side, Clark also set a new school record. In addition to winning the mile invitational, Clark bested her own record in the 800. There were also school marks by freshman Emily Tyler in the 200 meter dash, senior Danna Deans in the 600 and the relay team of freshman Grace Venzor, Tyler, sophomore Lauryn Dugan, and freshman Brittani Peltz in the 4x400.

Xavier's next meet will once again be at Indiana when they take part in the Indiana Relays next weekend.

Record-setting women roll to undefeated A-10 start

BY KEN BURTON
Staff Writer

No. 21 ranked Xavier continued its record-breaking ways again this week.

The new year has seen head coach Kevin McGuff eclipse the school's all-time wins mark, the highest rebound differential when Xavier outrebounded conference foe Duquesne by 37 and the most wins in the first 20 games (16) of any team coached by McGuff.

Another record to add to the list was notched against the Rhode Island Rams on Jan. 24. The Musketeers allowed just 29 points, the lowest allowed by any Musketeer team, on its way to a 69-29 rout of the Rams.

The Musketeers nearly broke many more records. Had it not been for a Sherrie Session three point jumper in the last seconds of the game, the Rams would have scored the fewest points of any team in Atlantic 10 history.

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Sports

XAVIER NEWSWIRE

Xavier travels the road to success Musketeers win two away from Cintas Center; go to 5-0 in A-10

By DOUG TIFFT
Sports Editor

When Xavier head coach Sean Miller looked at the 2008-09 Xavier men's basketball schedule he knew that a two week stretch in mid-January was going to pose a tough test for his team.

Now, following five victories—four on the road—in 13 days, the Musketeers stand at 5-0 in the Atlantic 10 Conference and have returned to the top 10 in the country in the national polls.

The smooth sailing through the rocky waters was driven by strong senior leadership, and outstanding defensive efforts in Xavier's most recent road victories over St. Bonaventure and Southeastern Conference-leading Louisiana State.

In the Jan. 21, 84-64 victory over the Bonnies, Miller's team responded to an early challenge by controlling the last 14:50 of the first half with defensive effort. St. Bonaventure was held to 30.8 percent shooting in the half, and made only one of five three point attempts, allowing the Musketeers to take control of the game with a 19 point halftime lead.

A key cog in the Xavier run was senior forward C.J. Anderson, who ended the game with 15 points, six rebounds and four assists.

"I thought C.J. was the best player on the court for most of the game. He made big plays and he was a tough matchup for them based on how they chose to play defense," Miller said.

The senior leadership that



Photo courtesy of the Associated Press

Senior forward C.J. Anderson averaged 11 points and 7.5 rebounds per game in wins over St. Bonaventure and LSU.

Anderson showed in Olean carried over to Xavier's next game, an 80-70 win in their final non-conference game of the season against LSU.

While Anderson provided a solid, yet undazzling, seven points and nine rebounds, his fellow fourth-year players shone brightly.

Senior wing B.J. Raymond scored 21 points—including 9-10 free throw shooting in the second half—and redshirt-junior Derrick Brown scored 22 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

"B.J. Raymond did not have his best first half, but as he can do, and has done so many times in his career, he can put a bad seg-

ment behind him and come back," Miller said. Also, "Derrick Brown clearly was the best player on the court."

While the upperclassmen were leading the Musketeers, Xavier had to rely on an added contribution from freshman center Kenny Frease, while starting center, junior Jason Love, was hampered by an upper respiratory infection.

Frease answered the call by scoring 12 points on 6-8 shooting, earning him recognition as the Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Week for the time period when he scored 8.7 points and pulled down 3.3 rebounds per game.

Frease was a major part of the depth advantage that Xavier held over the Tigers, one that helped them hold LSU to 32.3 percent shooting in the second half, while Xavier shot 60 percent.

"We wore them down," Miller said. "That has a lot to do with the depth that we have; we stayed with it, we were physical around the basket."

Having successfully navigated the difficult two week stretch, the Musketeers now return to conference play for a series of home games against Charlotte on Jan. 28, Massachusetts on Jan. 31 and Temple on Feb. 5.

With his team's national stature rising as the team's win streak extends to eight games, Miller wants to make sure that his team remains focused in their return to Cintas Center.

"We don't need a wakeup call," Miller said.

managed to find the scoring column in the 40 point drubbing.

The Musketeers also put on a show earlier in the weekend, playing the Massachusetts Minutewomen.

Once again, the defense and rebounding were key to the victory, as the Musketeers set the tone by out-rebounding UMass 50-30 on their way to an 83-54 victory.

While Xavier again cleaned up the glass, a balanced offensive onslaught also kept the UMass defense off-balance all night. With five Musketeers recording double digit scoring nights, the Minutewomen couldn't key in on one player.

"We are at our best when we have balance," McGuff said. "We have to get the ball inside, certainly to Ta'Shia and April Phillips, but also have the ability to spread the ball on the perimeter and make outside shots."

The Musketeers remain undefeated at 5-0 in the A-10 and are 17-4 overall.

The Musketeers' A-10 domination put the team on the cusp of another conference record, the best start in conference history, which was set in 2004-05 at 7-0.

That is not to say, however, that the team has simply been rolling over cupcakes all season.

"[The A-10] is as deep as our league has been in quite some time," coach McGuff said. "There



Photo courtesy of GoXavier.com

Sophomore center T'Shia Phillips (shown here in a Nov. 14 victory over Robert Morris) won her third A-10 Player of the Week Award following victories over Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

are a lot of teams playing well and obviously we haven't seen them all yet, but I know it is going to be a really challenging season because there is a lot of parity in this year's league."

Echoing those sentiments are the Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) ranking released this week, slating the Musketeers at number 18 in the country. The RPI index helps rank and seed teams for postseason tournaments and puts

a heavy emphasis on strength of schedule and opponents' winning percentage.

The Musketeers will need to be up for another one of those challenging games McGuff spoke of this weekend, as they head to Saint Joseph's on Saturday, Jan. 31 for a 5 p.m. tipoff before heading back home to square off with the one-loss St. Bonaventure Bonnies.

Stay tuned; more records are sure to be rewritten.

Leaders of the Pack

By DOUG TIFFT
Sports Editor

In the summer of 1999, Jim Boone felt dejected. Boone, then the head basketball coach at Division II Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, had suffered through a long season in which he watched in vain as his smaller, weaker players were dominated by superior offensive talent.

Boone needed a way to help level the playing field and allow his players to guard better athletes on a nightly basis—and help him win games.

To solve his problem, Boone did what many other coaches had done before, and what hundreds of coaches have done since: seek out Dick Bennett, the legendary former coach of the University of Wisconsin.

Bennett, who retired shortly after leading the Badgers to a Final Four appearance in 2000, had been wildly successful for close to two decades with what he called his “packline defense.”

Boone studied the system for weeks before returning and implementing the system at Robert Morris, where he turned the program around with an 18-12 season before moving on to success at Eastern Michigan University and his current position at Tusculum College in Tennessee.

The key to the success was the defensive system known as the “packline.”

The system is so called because while one defender plays tight defense on the man with the ball, the other four teammates remain inside an imaginary line known as “the pack” (See Diagram A).

The basic premise of the packline defense is to even the playing field for the team with lesser athletic ability. By placing the four off-the-ball defenders in “help” positions, it severely weakens the offensive player’s ability to drive uncontested to the basket, and allows the defense to double team the offense’s post players effectively.

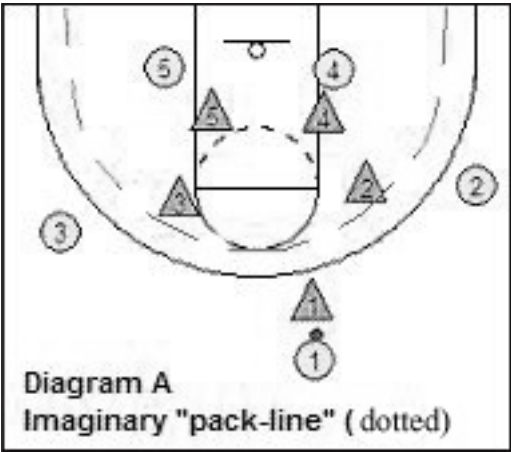
While the defense started out as a way for players to compete against the stronger, faster athletes from larger schools, it has now spread to those very same stronger, faster athletes. The

packline has become all the rage in college basketball as of late, with coaches ranging from Notre Dame’s Mike Brey to Michigan State’s Tom Izzo having installed the system.

“Initially we ran it because our talent level necessitated it, but after having run it for the last several years, we feel that with better talent, that it becomes a better defense because we are much better at defending the basketball one-on-one which makes the pack even stronger,” Boone said. “With better athletes you can put a lot greater pressure on the basketball.”

So many schools have undertaken the packline system that coaches who abstained from making the switch, like Duke’s Mike Krzyzewski, are having newfound success because their opponents are not accustomed to seeing defenders pressuring the offensive players away from the ball—such as the way the Blue Devils shut down Xavier on Dec. 20, when the inexperienced Musketeers were unaccustomed to the pressure defense.

Xavier is now one of the schools at the front of the crowd for recruiting elite athletes to play



in a packline defense for men’s basketball coach Sean Miller.

The packline system matriculated to Xavier in recent years, in large part because of Boone.

Boone, who has longstanding ties with Miller dating back to

when Miller and his father Jim would put on clinics for Boone at California University of Pennsylvania in the 1980’s, had many conversations with Miller about the defense, with Miller converting Xavier to the system after becoming head coach in 2004.

Miller has employed the system expertly, holding opponents to a 41.1 percent field goal shooting in his five years as head coach.

A key for Miller has been the



photo courtesy of the Associated Press
Xavier head coach Sean Miller has injected a tough defensive mindset into his team with the use of the packline defense.

presence of excellent on-ball defenders, such as Justin Cage and Stanley Burrell, who obstruct the view of the ballhandler, and do not allow them to see the open man on offense.

“Man-to-man defense [in the packline], the analogy would be that if we are a football team, whatever defense that we choose we just never stop pressuring the quarterback,” Miller said. “You have got to pressure the ball and

that makes your defense tough, that gives you a chance. The better we do that, the better we are. If we don’t do that, then bad things happen.”

Another important part of Xavier’s packline success has been agile post players such as Anthony Myles and Josh Duncan, who are able to play aggressive defense down low by “walling up” with their hands extended without fouling, and also get out and leave

Tennis joins award season

By SCOTT MUELLER
Asst. Sports Editor

The Xavier men’s and women’s tennis teams showed award winning play this week.

The men’s team swept the weekly awards with Senior Ra’ees Ismail taking home A-10 performer of the week and freshman Richard Canelas winning A-10 Rookie of the week, while Junior Kaitlyn Zinn earned A-10 performer of the week for the women after remaining undefeated in dual meets thus far this season.

The awards came in following the men’s team posting a 1-2 week, knocking off Toledo for the first time in 12 years, but falling to No. 1 Ohio State and Western Michigan.

While the Musketeers fell on Jan. 21 to the Buckeyes in all seven of the day’s matches, they hung tough against the top team in the country.

Head coach Eric Toth said, “I thought our guys really fought hard, even in the second sets when the matches seemed to be slipping away.”

The effort held over in Xavier’s next time out, a 4-3 win over



Photo courtesy of GoXavier.com
Sophomore Kaitlyn Zinn.

Toledo on Jan. 24 at Toledo, in which they swept the doubles matches and got victories from sophomore Bobby Deye, Ismael and senior Mike Dieciuc in singles.

The team did not get to celebrate their first victory long, as they had to travel to Western Michigan the next day, where they fell to the Broncos 4-3.

Ismail was able to win his second singles match of the week,

the pack to assist with on-the-ball screens—the only time that a post player leaves the pack.

“[We] just focus on showing [our] hands to the referee, not getting little ticky-tack fouls [on the on-ball screens], and just being tough down there,” Xavier junior center Jason Love, a current expert in packline post defense, said.

While the on-ball and post defense has been exceptional for Xavier, the Musketeers have been able to stick with the packline in large part because the coaching staff has stressed the fundamentals of closing out on wing players with hands held high above the defender’s head—Xavier has limited opponents to 33.2 percent three point shooting in Miller’s tenure—and not allowing any offensive player to drive to the baseline side, where there is not a “help” defender.

As the fundamentals of the system have been endlessly repeated in practice, and the sketches of its system have scattered across countless whiteboards in the Miller years, the Xavier program has become the envy of college coaches across the land for their commitment to defense, and toughness that is required to run such a system.

“It’s really a blue-collar, hard-nosed way to play defense,” said Wake Forrest head coach Dino Guadio, whose team adopted the system in 2007 when Guadio took over the head coaching role for the late Skip Prosser.

With the success that the system has had nationwide, “packline” is now the most influential compound word in college basketball. It seems that the system employed by Bennett, Boone, Miller and countless others may just be the key to getting ahead of “the pack.”

which coupled with a forfeit and a victory from Canelas gave Xavier their points.

The men’s tennis team will travel to Richmond, Ky. next weekend to take on Chattanooga on Friday and Eastern Kentucky on Saturday.

For the women, a 1-1 week featured a win over Toledo and a loss to Eastern Kentucky.

In the Jan. 23 win over Toledo, Zinn, senior Cara Courtney and sophomores Kelsey Kinnard and Christie Pleiman notched victories to give Xavier a 4-3 win.

“For this early in the season, to have a match of this high of quality was just outstanding,” said Toth. “Both sides played so hard, and I give Toledo a lot of credit. They were certainly a worthy opponent.”

The following day, Xavier was tripped up by Eastern Kentucky 4-3. Sophomores Tifanie Treece and Jill Druco won along with Zinn, but it was not enough for Xavier.

Toth said, “We did not have our very best stuff tonight, and to beat a quality team like Eastern Kentucky we need to click on all cylinders.”

Don't stray during 'Lost's' fifth season

BY AMY WINDHORST
Campus News Editor

The hit television series "Lost" returned for its fifth season this past week, offering the same complexity and depth that fans have come to love. In the premiere episodes, "Because You Left" and "The Lie," the "Lost" producers pushed the series to new grounds, playing with time travel and testing fans' knowledge of the show's timeline.

However, after nearly five years of twisted plotlines, the casual fan may be left feeling confused and unsatisfied. For those brave enough to tackle "Lost's" fifth season, here is a brief rundown of some of the series' most important aspects. "Lost" airs on Wednesdays at 9 p.m. on ABC. **The Island**

"Lost" follows a band of survivors whose plane crashed onto a mysterious island. The island itself is one of the show's larger mysteries throughout the seasons. It is undetectable under normal circumstances, and home to a monster made of smoke, as well as a mysterious entity named Jacob. Various episodes have also suggested that the island has the capacity for healing—one of the survivors, John Locke, was able to walk after years of being paralyzed. Most recently, the audience discovered that the island has the ability to move through time and space. While many of these details have yet to be explained, it is clear that the true nature of the island is one of the show's integral mysteries.

The Dharma Initiative

The Dharma Initiative is a group that arrived on the "Lost" island long before the plane crash. The Initiative's goal was to bring several upstanding scientists to the island as a place to perform research. Most of the Dharma Initiative was killed off by The Others; however, hints of their presence on the island crop up constantly. Survivors of the crash often interact with Dharma "stations."

One station, the Swan, released electromagnetic energy that was actually responsible for the plane crash. Most recently, a Dharma station known as the Orchid allowed the survivors to move the island through space and time.

The Others

The Others are often viewed as the show's main antagonists. They were living on the island even before the Dharma Initiative arrived, though it is unknown exactly how long they have been there. While the Others' motives remain unclear, they do take an interest in people they deem "special," including Locke, Walt and Benjamin Linus. Locke was recently chosen to lead the Others due to his "special" nature. They are also interested in reproduction, since something about the island makes it impossible for women to give birth. The Others are currently led by Richard Alpert, a man who never ages, and the mysterious island entity known as "Jacob."

Dual Storylines

Season five will follow the sur-

vivors of the "Lost" plane crash across two separate storylines. Instead of the typical flashback/flashforward structure of "Lost," episodes will now jump between the two storylines.

The first storyline will focus on the survivors who had been left on the island at the end of season four (including Sawyer, Juliet and Locke). The events of this storyline will eventually lead up to Locke's death.

The second storyline will focus on the survivors who left the island at the end of season four, including the Oceanic Six (Jack, Kate, Sun, Sayid, Hurley and Aaron), Ben and Desmond. This storyline is set three years after the first storyline, and deals with Ben's attempts to bring everyone back to the island.

Time Travel

The survivors who were left on the island at season four's close are currently traveling through time. The show sets up several rules for time travel, including the inevitability of certain events and the inability of the time-travelers to change the past.

The only person who can be impacted by the time travelers is Desmond, who became "dislodged" from time after being overexposed to electromagnetic fields at the end of season two. If something changes in the past, Desmond recalls it as a new memory. At the end of the season five premiere, Desmond was contacted by Farraday from the past in order to save those shifting through time-space on the island.

Stuff Xavier People Like

Introducing a series of (not serious) columns, inspired by Christian Lander's book "Stuff White People Like," devoted to exploring the things Xavier students love... and the reasons behind them.

#1 Derrick Brown & Joe Hughes

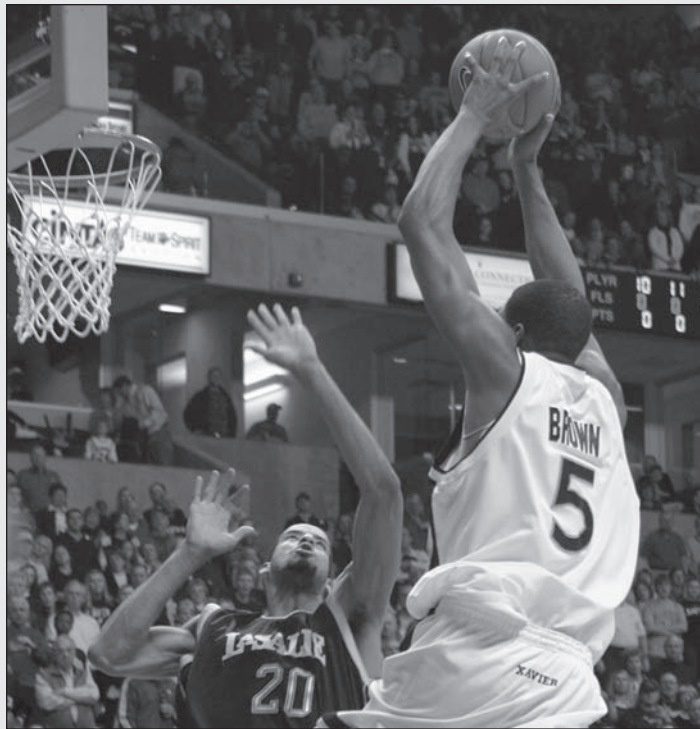


Photo courtesy of musketeermadness.com

Nothing is worse for Xavier students than looking away to talk to a friend and missing one of Derrick Brown's spectacular dunks.

BY ANDREW CHESTNUT
Xavier Cultural Anthropologist

Because Xavier lacks a real football team and the opportunity to tailgate, the mens' basketball team is of very high importance to students.

The team has been extremely successful in recent years, and home basketball games give students something fun and free to do on a regular basis.

Unfortunately, the entertainment value of home games is sometimes diminished, as the basketball team frequently blows out weaker A-10 opponents at Cintas Center.

Unless the team is playing a rival like Dayton or Cincinnati, many home games fail to capture the attention of less adamant portions of the student section beyond half time.

This makes two basketball players especially important. The first is arguably the team's best player, Derrick Brown, a 6'8" forward known for freakish athleticism and dunking prowess.

Another famously spectacular Derrick Brown dunk or alley-oop can occur at any time, so fans pay extra close attention when he is on the floor so they won't miss

anything.

In fact, Brown is so popular that at the start of each semester, students are often excited to tell their friends that Derrick is in one of their classes, or that they heard him say something in Gallagher.

On the other hand, Joe Hughes is important for a completely different reason.

Hughes looks like less of a basketball player and more like a regular guy, and students find him highly relatable.

When Hughes plays, which only occurs at the end of games, fans cheer wildly, belting (often for the first time in the game), "Huuuuuughes!" encouraging him to shoot wildly from anywhere on the court.

When Joe Hughes succeeds, he makes everyone else feel like they could succeed at basketball, too.

It is not surprising that Hughes shares a first name with other everyman heroes, like Joe the Plumber and the mythical Joe Sixpack. Hughes is essentially Xavier's "Joe the basketball-player."

When Joe Hughes scores, Cintas Center vigorously erupts. For many, a Joe Hughes two-pointer is like a second "moral" victory long after victory in the real game has been determined.

Def Jam poets visit XU

BY FELIPE GARCIA-WASNICH
Staff Writer

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. week, Student Activities Council brought two acclaimed slam poets to campus.

Shihan the Poet received the 2004 National Poetry Slam award and is a frequent flyer on HBO's Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Jam. Shihan came to campus with fellow Def Poetry Jam veteran, Gina Loring.

The poets rotated turns delivering their material to a meager but enthusiastic crowd in Kelly Auditorium at 9 p.m. last Thursday, Jan. 22, Shihan, who helped birth a slam poetry movement in Los Angeles by way of his Poetry Lounge venue, started the slam banter out strong with political commentary on technology culture and rapid-running, crazy robots.

"The point is this," he stated, "these robots are not our friendly helpers, and Honda should not be trying to sell them to us like dishwashers."

In stark contrast to the blatant sharp words of Shihan's poetry, Gina Loring, who has spent time



Photo courtesy of last.fm

Shihan the Poet in action during one of his many poetry readings.

teaching high school creative writing, served as a soothing presence. As both a singer and a poet, she transitioned into her verse by singing lyrics from her recently released album.

Both poets featured work from their newest CDs. While Loring proudly pitched her musical debut, "The Get Back," Shihan mentioned his latest poetry album

"Music is the new Black," from which he gave the audience a hilarious sample. The album features a predominant critique on urban culture.

The poetry that Loring presented mainly detailed her personal relationships with lovers or with people desiring to classify her racially. To the first she soothingly cooed, "I wanna do lap dances on your intellect and wrap my legs around your consciousness."

The event finished with Shihan taking requests from the crowd and sharing his love for his two small children. Loring ended the evening by treating the Xavier audience to a new poem, freshly written on the train.

Later during a Q-and-A session, the poets encouraged Xavier students to be determined in their dreams and above all else, be unafraid to write. When asked how she wanted to be remembered by one curious student, Loring was oddly taken aback and made jokes about her demise.

"It's hard to tie it down to one thing," she said, "But if I had to, I would say that I want to be remembered as someone who left footprints."

‘Gran Torino’ revs its engine

By JOHN LAFOLLETTE
Editor-in-Chief

Clint Eastwood has made an acting career out of playing cranky men of sullen disposition, and a directing career showing that he, himself, is no such man.

In his latest foray into the actor-director arena, Eastwood plays retired Ford assemblyman, recent widower and born-that-way bigot Walt Kowalski. Having forged his antithetical impressions of Southeast Asians fighting in the Korean War, he has lived long enough to see his white, working class Detroit neighborhood become a community of poor Hmong immigrants.

We meet Walt at a low-point: he is mourning not only his wife, but also the moral state of his inconsiderate progeny (and their inconsiderate progeny). He has resigned himself to bitterness, grumbling venom at everyone but his barber and his dog, Daisy, who also gets the gruff-treatment every now and again.

Wanting only to be left alone to Pabst Blue Ribbon-soaked afternoons on his front porch, Walt is thrust into the lives of his neighbors when one of them, a teenaged boy named Thao, tries to steal his 1972 Gran Torino as a reluctant initiation into a Hmong gang.

The botched theft is the cause of a scuffle that begins in Thao’s front yard, but ends with the gang-bangers staring down the barrel of a bolt-action rifle, in Walt’s.

The scene is more colorful, dy-



Photo courtesy of latimes.com

It has been rumored that “Gran Torino” is Eastwood’s cinematic swan song after a long and storied career.

namic and tense than the reduced version in the film’s trailer (“Get off my lawn!”), and ends with the gang members appropriately scared.

Thus begins the thawing of Walt Kowalski. Overwhelmed with gifts of thanks from the Hmong in his neighborhood and at the invitation of Thao’s precocious sister Sue, Walt reluctantly attends a barbeque at his neighbors’ house.

When Thao’s labor is offered as recompense for trying to steal the Gran Torino, Walt makes it his business to impart his proto-American values to the young man. A relationship forms that changes both characters immensely.

Eastwood’s take on the predictable prejudiced-recalcitrant-has-change-of-heart plot is worth seeing not only for the grace, but also the extremity of the change.

Dyed in the wool, Walt hurls epithets (like “swamp rat” and “gook”) with impunity throughout the film, but as he warms to his neighbors, the tone of his slurs approaches endearment. A word to movie-goers: it’s okay to laugh; you’re witnessing a metamorphosis.

In the final assessment, “Gran Torino” measures up with the best movies of 2008, and certainly eclipses Eastwood’s most recent directing ventures, “Flags of Our Fathers,” “Letters from Iwo Jima”

and “The Changeling.” The film is as tight as they come in dialogue, camerawork and editing. If “Gran Torino” spins its wheels at all, it’s during the scenes that set up Walt’s contempt for certain members of his family, which is visible from the get-go.

If “Gran Torino” really is Clint Eastwood’s last movie, he’s made a gem, worthy of a ride into the sunset. One piece of advice, though: stick around for the credits. The title track is worth your \$9.50 admission (guess who wrote it).

Newswire Rating:



AM radio still very much alive

By NORA HEINK
Asst. Arts & Entertainment Editor

Last week, *the Newswire* contemplated the relevance of FM radio in a media culture that is becoming increasingly personalized.

With media devices such as DVR units, iPods and internet radio enabling users to create individual playlists from a range of specialized programming, mass media outlets—radio stations in particular—are being forced to rethink how they will attract audiences.

Amid the scramble to adapt radio formats for a new technological era, the stability of AM radio is perhaps overlooked.

There is also some speculation that this band, which pre-dates the clearer sound quality of FM radio, could become more enticing as High Definition radio sales increase.

While, in general, AM radio offers mainly specialized stations featuring talk and sports shows, as well as smaller music stations that play classic country and oldies, it appears that there is a recognizable commercial niche for this brand of programming.

Despite the woes of commercial radio (most recently demonstrated in last week’s announcement that Clear Channel, the nation’s largest radio station owner, is cutting nearly 2,000 jobs), stations that broadcast informa-



Photo courtesy of epguides.com

Famous comedy act Abbott and Costello were first discovered on the radio. Local AM radio station 700 WLW began broadcasting in 1922, during the Golden Age of radio.

tive material are faring better than music stations.

FM public radio and NPR stations, which typically carry news, arts and local informational programming, continue to enjoy a solid audience-base as well as financial sponsorship from listeners and private donors.

AM radio also subsists as a fixture of political culture. Conservative talk show hosts such as Rush Limbaugh, Bill O’Reilly and Laura Ingraham have gained notoriety due to their AM radio presence. Similarly, commentators such as Al Franken and Alan

Colmes also used talk radio to reach liberal audiences.

In addition to providing a platform for political opinion, AM radio generally carries local news and commentators as well as syndicated self-help and finance shows such as “The Dr. Laura Show” and “The Bruce Williams Show.”

While in recent decades music has prevailed over information in the commercial radio market, news and talk programming are less easily replaced by mp3 players and mix CDs. Sports broadcasts and call-in talk shows offer

an interactive appeal, which, until matched by other media devices, will keep AM on the airwaves a while longer.

AM Radio in Cincinnati

550 WKRC:
News, Talk

700 WLW:
News, Talk, Sports

1050 WCVX:
Christian

1090 WKFI:
Classic Country

1160 WDJO:
Oldies

1360 WSAI:
Sports

1480 WCIN:
Smooth Jazz

1530 WCKY:
Sports, Talk

BRIEFS

Karaoke Night

Karaoke comes to the GSC, thanks to the International Students Society and Ryan’s Pub. ISS will host an evening of singing and mingling from 6:30-9:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 30 in Ryan’s Pub. Stop by for a fun-filled multi-cultural event!

SAC Ski Trip

Tickets to SAC’s annual mid-night ski trip to Perfect North go on sale at 11:30 a.m., Friday, Jan. 30 on the first floor of GSC. The trip will leave at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 7 from Buenger Circle. Tickets are \$25 and include a lift ticket, ski rental, beginner’s lesson and transportation.

Ben Folds Tickets

Tickets to the Ben Folds concert are still on sale at the Cintas Box Office. Tickets are \$15 for students with All Card, \$25 for others.

Stephanie Metz, Editor
newswire-diversions@xavier.edu

Live Wires

(week of Jan. 25)

2nd Annual Winter Blues Fest

6 p.m., 1/30 @ Southgate House, \$15

Oso Bear

9 p.m., 1/31 @ The Mad Hatter, \$5

Aja

8:30 p.m., 1/31 @ 20th Century Theatre, \$15

Big Head Todd & The Monsters

8 p.m., 2/3 @ 20th Century Theatre, \$22



DANA'S A Xavier Legacy

BY MADELINE LAFAYE
Features Editor

Every college campus has its local watering hole, and while Xavier's might appear more like a hole-in-the-wall than much to look at, Dana Gardens has a deeply rooted history in the Xavier community.

Established as a bar in 1935, Dana Gardens, commonly referred to as "Dana's," was owned and run by Dan Delaney. The Delaney family lived upstairs in what is now the upper level of the bar. On Friday afternoons, Delaney would illegally cash paychecks through a cubbyhole in the wall near the door and keep the change to the nearest dollar, according to Bill Studer, a frequenter of Dana Gardens since 1964 and former manager in the 1970s, who also met his wife at Dana's. "He'd keep the change and of course they'd spend half their paychecks here," said Studer of the factory workers who cashed their checks with Delaney.

Industry thrived in the lots surrounding Dana Gardens during the '60s and '70s. With the Coca-Cola plant on the same block and a chemical plant across the street, Dana's was open from 5:30 a.m. until 2:30 a.m. The men would come in for meals and strong drinks during their breaks, according to Studer.

Dana's closed down in 1994 after getting caught serving to minors, and was purchased in 1995. It is now run by the well-known Branden John Hayley, or "BJ," Xavier class of '94, along with Robby DasVarma, Bill Keehn and Carl Hayley. DasVarma and Keehn are also graduates of Xavier.

"We had the opportunity and thought it'd be fun to own [Dana's], you know, being Xavier grads ourselves," BJ said of acquiring Dana's. "From what I've heard from alumni is that they came here and just had such a great time," BJ said, explaining that almost everything in the bar is structur-



Dana Gardens, the preferred destination for Xavier students and alumni, has remained structurally unchanged since it opened in 1935.

Newswire photo by Erika Bresee

ally still the same as it was in 1935. "We keep it simple."

BJ and Studer reminisce of stories from the '30s of patrons being thrown out or jumping out of the second floor window and landing on mattresses. A car even came through the wall in roughly 1983, taking out a large chunk at one end of the bar. "Some lady was driving and had a big old Cadillac coming into the bar," BJ said, noting that she was underage with no driver's license and was uninsured.

"You may not remember all of your experiences here, but you know they were good."

-Senior Cullen Reif

"It's a lot more tame than it used to be," said Studer of Dana's today in comparison to the '80s," explaining that the drinking age used to be 18. Eighteen-year-olds could drink beer with 3.2 percent alcohol and those over 21 could drink that of regular beer. A red cap denoted 3.2 beer and a blue cap was regular. "But the biggest reason [Dana's is more tame now] is the girls," Struder said, speaking of when Xavier used to be an all-male university until 1969.

"Guys being guys would—it was like you never brought a woman here—you'd go to another bar and strike out and come back [to Dana's] and get drunk."

Joseph Freytag of Minster, Ohio, a marketing major from the class of 1983 remembers frequenting Dana's about twice per week, beginning right from the start of Manresa weekend. Freytag told the story of his most vivid memory at Dana's when the Muskies won the Crosstown

Shootout a year after he had graduated. "The team came in and the coach at the time was Bob Stack," he said, "music was playing and [coach Stack] and the players were dancing on the bar."

Tim Keaner, class of 1972, recollects a similar craziness at Dana's following a Crosstown win, saying that the bar was once so crowded, a neighbor called in a riot. "When I got there, there were 30 police cars and 60 cops plus three K9 dogs and it was crazy—it was crazy,"

he said. BJ and Studer were familiar with this riot-like celebration and described the good times, saying that when Xavier beat UC, everyone would be partying inside, outside, upstairs, jumping on the bars, just dancing. "That particular year that place was so crowded, [the students] were blocking Montgomery Road and the cops shut down the bar," Studer said with a smile.

As a season ticket holder, Freytag still goes back to Dana's after the games saying that "things don't change, alumni still go there," he said. "It's a tradition."

Attempting to carry on this tradition, BJ says that even after being there for 13 years, the prices have not changed much with pitchers of beer only going from \$5 in 1996 to \$6 today.

Bottled beer prices have risen from \$1.75 to \$2.25, and drafts from \$1.25 to \$1.75. Dana's has one domestic on tap—Bud Light—and five imports. "[Xavier Students] have more sophisticated tastes now—more willing to drink imported," BJ said of the beer drinking tendencies of today's student patrons. "All young people now are [more willing to drink imported beer] than we were," added Studer.

"The prices are fair—very fair," said senior Cullen Reif, 22, of St. Paul Minn.,

chine with everyone going crazy.

Reif's usual is a Bud Light "because of its drinkability," he says with a smile. Sitting at the original tables from 1935, now characterized by hundreds of names carved into the wood, he also sometimes eats cheeseburgers saying that they beat out those at the on-campus Ryan's Pub. As a former employee of the pub, Reif commented on the Dana's burgers saying, "They are way better...way better."

The signature drink at Dana's is called the Herschel Special named after one of the bartenders—a secret concoction that BJ was unwilling to share. Upon asking the student regular if he's tested out this Dana's delicacy and what it might

contain, Reif replied, "I have. I think it's a good drink—gosh it's probably gin, vodka, rum, some kind of pineapple juice or fruit juice...that's all I can think of," he said.

The passion Reif has for spending time at Dana's clearly runs deep, as his Dana Gardens memorabilia collection includes a few beer coozies and a T-shirt with plans to purchase the grey sweatshirt hanging on display above the bar. Reif's mother, Laurie, aware of his interest in the historical hangout recently purchased a \$40 gift certificate for her

son from the bar for his birthday, most of which has since been used up, according to Reif.

Reif, however, is not alone in this passion. There is a Dana Gardens Facebook group with over 880 members, and nearly half that number in posted "fan photos." Various wall-posts grace the group's page, stating: "the greatest bar in the world!", "a place I can always come home to no matter how much XU changes!", and "ah, college memories...good ole' Dana's."

Marketing Dana's as "An Irish Possession, A Xavier Tradition," BJ and Robby try to involve themselves in the Xavier community as much as possible. Dana's sponsors the Fenwick golf tournament and Senior Week, and BJ says that they "try to keep united at Xavier—we are all huge fans."

Studer, who resides in Ault Park, still comes into Dana's for a Pabst Blue Ribbon every night he is in town, and still works the occasional 12-5 p.m. shift during reunion weekend. "It's where hookups have turned into marriages," he said of the now-legendary bar, thinking back to meeting his wife there.

BJ is enthusiastic about business, saying that weekends are usually busy with Thursdays and Fridays getting the most crazy and that Dana's is also bustling most of the summer. He's not too worried about the halting of Xavier Square, although remarked that Dana's will likely start to serve lunch like the old days as campus moves up to Montgomery Road with more student traffic in the area. "I know eventually it will get done—the sooner the better, obviously," he said.

A quote scrawled on the wall in the men's bathroom seemed to touch Reif and clearly convey his attitude toward Dana's. Upon confirming the exact words, he shared them, summing up his experience at the legendary Dana Gardens: "I've hated this bar, I've loved this bar, I've been kicked out of this bar...I love this bar."



Newswire photo by Erika Bresee

Dana's was reopened in 1995 when it was purchased by three Xavier graduates, including the well-known "BJ" Hayley.

who has continued the Dana's tradition for about two years now as a regular at the bar, usually making the trip 4-5 times per week. "If you go downtown, you're going to pay \$4-\$5 for a beer," he says of the prices. "Here you will pay \$2."

Reif describes the Dana's experience, saying, "It's kind of like a history of the college experience," he said. "You may not remember all of your experiences here, but you know they were good." He remembers visiting the bar one night after the Crosstown to see BJ on top of the videogame ma-

